

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's remarks and cited references have been carefully considered and responsive thereto the applicant has canceled claims 7-9, and has amended claim 1 to fix a minor grammatical error.

Also included herewith is a formal corrected copy of the figures incorporating the required changes which were identified in the Examiner's Office Action dated 10/29/2003.

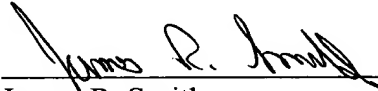
Claim 7 was rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Taylor et al. (US 2002/0156666). As noted above the applicant has canceled claim 7 and applicant respectfully requests that this rejection now be withdrawn.

Claim 8 and 9 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Taylor et al. (US 2002/0156666), and further in view of Hagenbuch (US 5,754,965). Also as noted above, the applicant has canceled claims 8 and 9 and applicant respectfully requests that this rejection now be withdrawn.

Claims 1-6, 10-19, 23, 24, and 26-45 were indicated by the Examiner as being allowed. The applicant thanks the Examiner for the allowance of these claims.

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is in condition for allowance and allowance of the application at issue is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James R. Smith
Registration No. 41,318
Caterpillar Inc.

Telephone: (309) 636-1569
Facsimile: (309) 675-1236